

**Introduced by Senator Alquist**

March 30, 2005

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 36—Relative to the Alzheimer’s Association.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 36, as introduced, Alquist. Alzheimer’s Association anniversary.

This measure would commend the Alzheimer’s Association for its many accomplishments and service to families living with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementia disorders on the occasion of the association’s 25th anniversary.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On April 10, 1980, the Alzheimer’s Association  
2 was legally incorporated in New York with seven groups  
3 nationwide, including volunteers in San Francisco, and  
4 established as its mission the elimination of Alzheimer’s disease  
5 through the advancement of research and the enhancement of  
6 care and support for individuals, their families and caregivers;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Since its founding, the association has been the  
9 largest private funder of Alzheimer’s disease research in the  
10 country, having awarded \$165 million to more than 1300  
11 research investigations; and

12 WHEREAS, The association created the Safe Return program  
13 to assist in the identification and safe, timely return of individuals  
14 with Alzheimer’s disease who wander and become lost; and

15 WHEREAS, The association operates an awareness campaign  
16 that identifies 10 warning signs for families to help recognize

1 symptoms of Alzheimer's disease that should prompt  
2 consultation with their physician; and

3 WHEREAS, The association maintains a Medicare Advocacy  
4 Project with the American Bar Association's Commission on the  
5 Legal Problems of the Elderly to improve Medicare coverage of  
6 care and treatment for beneficiaries with dementia; and

7 WHEREAS, The association maintains a 24 hour national  
8 contact center that enables families living with Alzheimer's to  
9 always have access to trained staff; and

10 WHEREAS, The association has 300 points of service  
11 nationwide where families living with Alzheimer's disease and  
12 other dementia disorders receive information and referral,  
13 education, care consultation, and access to support groups; and

14 WHEREAS, The association began its work targeting those  
15 already diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, and has since  
16 broadened its activities to targeting those showing early  
17 symptoms of the disease and to prevention. In fact, the  
18 association will convene in June 2005 the first-of-its-kind  
19 conference on prevention—International Conference on  
20 Prevention of Dementia: Early Diagnosis and Intervention; and

21 WHEREAS, The association has provided a voice for people  
22 with Alzheimer's and their families and, through its advocacy in  
23 California, has fostered the development, expansion, and  
24 continued funding of the Alzheimer's Day Care Resource  
25 Centers, a national model for preventing the institutionalization  
26 of persons with moderate to severe Alzheimer's; and

27 WHEREAS, Through its advocacy in California, the  
28 association has created statutory authority for a tax checkoff for  
29 research in Alzheimer's disease and related dementia disorders  
30 that has raised more than \$7 million to fund California-based  
31 research and generated millions in federal research dollars that  
32 have enabled Alzheimer's research centers to be established  
33 throughout California; and

34 WHEREAS, The California chapters of the association,  
35 through the leadership of the Los Angeles/Riverside/San  
36 Bernardino chapter, developed for physicians, "Guidelines for  
37 Alzheimer's Disease Management" and for families, "Working  
38 with Your Doctor When You Suspect Memory Problems," which  
39 became a national model for creating family partnerships with

1 physicians and promoting appropriate treatment and family  
2 support; and

3 WHEREAS, The California chapters of the association have  
4 taken a leadership role in developing model programs to provide  
5 services to people living with dementia in diverse and  
6 underserved communities; and

7 WHEREAS, Through its advocacy in California, the  
8 association has created statutory requirements for dementia  
9 training in long-term care settings, developed model training  
10 guidelines, and provided training to long-term care staff  
11 throughout California in order to improve the quality of care for  
12 people with Alzheimer's and other dementia disorders; now,  
13 therefore, be it

14 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
15 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature commends the  
16 Alzheimer's Association for its many accomplishments and  
17 service to families living with Alzheimer's disease and other  
18 dementia disorders on the occasion of the Association's 25th  
19 anniversary; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of  
21 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.